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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Timothy "Tim" Nugent of Savoy, who passed away on November 11, 2015; and

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WHEREAS, Tim Nugent served in the 99th and 1st Infantry Divisions of the United States Army in Europe in World War II; he fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was awarded the Bronze Star; he earned a Bachelor of Science equivalency degree from Tarleton State University in Texas in 1943, while serving in the Army, a Bachelor of Science from the University of Wisconsin in LaCrosse in 1947, and a Master's of Science from the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1948; he was also awarded 3 honorary degrees for his work, a Doctor of Humanics from Springfield College in Massachusetts in 1978, a Doctor of Laws from Mount Mary College in Wisconsin in 1981, and a Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Illinois in 2015; the U of I also honored him with the Chancellor's Medallion in 2007; in 2011, he received The Order of Lincoln, the State's highest award; and

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WHEREAS, Tim Nugent founded the Rehabilitation Education Center at the University of Illinois, now known as the Division of Disability Resources and Education Services, the first comprehensive program of higher education in the nation for

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1 those with severe permanent disabilities; he served as its  
2 director from 1948 until his retirement in 1985; and

3 WHEREAS, Tim Nugent founded the National Wheelchair  
4 Basketball Association in 1949 and served as its commissioner  
5 for 25 years; he was instrumental in the development of  
6 wheelchair sports competitions in the United States and other  
7 countries, including the Paralympics; in 1948, he founded the  
8 rehabilitation service fraternity, Delta Sigma Omicron; he  
9 also developed the first public transportation to accommodate  
10 the able-bodied and those with disabilities, including  
11 wheelchairs, with equal safety and efficiency; among his many  
12 public services, he was the initial director of research and  
13 development for the American National Standards Institute for  
14 the committee developing standards on the accessibility and  
15 usability of facilities by the physically disabled, and he  
16 served as Secretary of the Steering Committee and national  
17 Chairman; he also served 4 terms as President of the National  
18 Paraplegia Foundation and served as its director; he authored  
19 many articles and publications and lectured and consulted  
20 throughout the U.S. and in 8 foreign countries, speaking at  
21 more than 54 universities and 14 medical colleges, including  
22 the Royal College of Surgeons, the Royal Institute of British  
23 Architects, and the Ministry of Education's Central Council for  
24 Rehabilitation of the Disabled in England; he also received the  
25 Dr. Patrick Haglund Lectureship Award from Sweden's Central

1 Committee for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled; he also  
2 lectured before the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons,  
3 the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy, the First International  
4 Seminar on Physical Education in Nagoya, Japan, and the first  
5 Rehabilitation Conference in Beijing, China; and

6 WHEREAS, Tim Nugent received numerous awards and honors in  
7 his career, including the U.S. President's Public Personnel  
8 Award from President Dwight Eisenhower in 1957 and the U.S.  
9 President's Citation from the President's Committee on  
10 Employment of the Physically Handicapped that same year; he  
11 also received the Distinguished Service Award Presidential  
12 Citation from President Bill Clinton in 1993, the University of  
13 Illinois Wakefield Award in 1973, the Henry Betts Award in  
14 1999, and numerous other awards; and

15 WHEREAS, Tim Nugent was an avid U of I sports fan and  
16 attended football and basketball games whenever possible; he  
17 was also a longtime member of the Champaign-Urbana Optimists  
18 Club; and

19 WHEREAS, Tim Nugent was preceded in death by his sister,  
20 Marge (Jim) McKain, and his nephew, Rick Munch; and

21 WHEREAS, Tim Nugent is survived by his wife of 45 years,  
22 Jeanette (nee Sato); his sons, Brian (Mary) Nugent and Tracy

1 (Claudia) Nugent; his sister, Patricia (Jay) Steuerwald; his  
2 brother, James Nugent; his grandchildren, Jaime (Cory) Meyer,  
3 Jacob (Marissa) Nugent, and Reni and Lorin Nugent; his  
4 great-grandchildren, Killian, Tiernan, and Regan Meyer and  
5 Emma and Vera Nugent; and his nieces and nephews, Chuck (Joann)  
6 Munch, Linda (Troy) Van Vleck, Judy Turner, and Joy Steuerwald  
7 (Barry Prioste); therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
9 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
10 Timothy "Tim" Nugent, and extend our sincere condolences to his  
11 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
12 further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
14 presented to the family of Tim Nugent as an expression of our  
15 deepest sympathy.